

Authority for 33 years, and is currently serving as the President and CEO. Rossi has previously served as the Authority's executive vice president and senior vice president of marketing. He is also an active member of a number of professional associations, such as, the International Association of Convention and Visitors Bureaus, the American Society of Association Executive and the Hotel Sales Marketing Association.

During his long and distinguished career, Rossi has received numerous accolades; most recently the Las Vegas Ad Club inducted him into the Las Vegas Advertising Hall of Fame for his lifetime marketing achievements. Rossi has also been honored by the American Marketing Association and the Travel and Tourism Research Association with Lifetime Achievement awards, and in 2004 he was selected by Brandweek Magazine as the Grand Marketer of the year. On Sunday, February 25, 2007, Rossi is being honored as the "Man of the Year" at the 79th Annual Academy Awards Oscar Night America and Arthritis Foundation Ceremony.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor my friend Rossi Ralenkotter for his considerable contributions to the success and expansion of the Las Vegas community. I commend his professional and personal commitment to southern Nevada. I applaud his efforts and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF WOMEN'S HEALTH OFFICE ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 15, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the Women's Health Office Act with my Republican colleague, DEBORAH PRYCE from Ohio. This Act establishes permanent authorization for the offices or officers of women's health in five federal agencies: the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the Health Resources and Services Administration, and the Food and Drug Administration.

Women's health research has been historically underfunded in the United States and for years women have been banned from clinical trials. For example, in 1977, the FDA barred all women of child bearing potential from participating in most early phase clinical research, and this continued for 16 years. Unfortunately, sex differences continue to be ignored in medical research today and we have not made up for the dearth of information on women's health.

The offices of women's health in these federal agencies were intended to provide a much needed focus on women's health including research, service delivery, policy, education, and outreach. However, these offices are currently unable to perform their responsibilities due to a lack of support from our federal government. They are severely underfunded and understaffed, and vulnerable to elimination in the future.

The work of these offices is essential to improving the health of women in the United States. Creating a permanent authorization

would ensure that these offices retain their allocated funding, are sufficiently staffed, and can accomplish the important work for which they were established.

HONORING ZACH COHEN FOR HIS WORK WITH OPERATION DVD

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 15, 2007

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize Zach Cohen, an extraordinary young man from Lower Makefield, Pennsylvania. Through his involvement with Operation DVD, Zach has shown exceptional selflessness and caring, well beyond his years.

The Charles Boehm Middle School seventh grader wrote me recently to promote the project, excited to help our community show support for troops overseas. Operation DVD was started by AMVETS, a national veteran's organization. Those running the project collect new or used DVDs and CDs, which are sent abroad to our service men and women. The goal of Operation DVD is to send over one million discs to soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan, where outdoor recreational activity comes at great risk. By providing soldiers with music and movies, they can enjoy what little free time they might have in safety.

Zach became involved with the project when he was researching a community service project to complete in preparation for his Bar Mitzvah. He felt his love for movies and music would be shared by our men and women fighting overseas. But most important, Zach's attitude showed appreciation and maturity that hopefully rubs off on others his age. Zach wrote in his letter, "I also think it's very important to support our troops and thank them for all that they do for our country. And I thought it was great that I had found a way to do a lot of good without having to ask people for money." Madam Speaker, we should all share this genuine thoughtfulness and consideration, especially for men and women who have sacrificed so much. And as someone who served in Baghdad only three years ago, I can attest to the affect these acts of generosity have on morale.

From the moment Zach discovered Operation DVD, he showed tremendous determination in spreading the word. He attended a Lower Makefield Township Supervisors meeting. He was featured in articles by the Yardley News and the Trend Midweek. He has sent letters to Bucks County school districts and various other community organizations. Madam Speaker, Zach's tireless efforts represent the potential of our youth for contributing to our communities through selfless and noble acts.

TRIBUTE TO ARNOLD GERMANN

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 15, 2007

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Arnold Germann on the occa-

sion of his retirement from the Farm Service Agency after 35 years of service. Since December of 1971, when he began as a County Office Manager trainee, he has dedicated his professional life to the Farm Service Agency. He became very effective in his first position as the Office Manager in El Paso County. After serving in El Paso County for a short time, he decided to give up his position and go to Weld County to manage the county office with the largest workload in the State.

Arnold has seen the office through numerous changes. When he started, farm programs in Weld County were limited to dryland farms. Through the years, the situation has changed dramatically and now nearly every farm in Weld County is enrolled in some sort of farm program.

Over the years, Mr. Germann has served on many State and National Committees to help develop ways to administer Farm Programs more efficiently. His impressive efforts earned him numerous leadership positions including President of the Colorado Association of County Office Employees from 1979 through 1982 and the Legislative Committee chair from 1987 to 1991. His outstanding work has been acknowledged with numerous awards including the 1976 Pro Employee award and the 1983 Service to Colorado Association of County Office Employees distinguished service award.

Mr. Germann has served the Farm Service Agency and the agricultural producers of Weld County with great dedication over these many years. I extend my heartfelt thanks to him for a lifetime of service.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. LINDA NOWLIN, KITTY STONE ELEMEN- TARY SCHOOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 15, 2007

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mrs. Linda Nowlin of Jacksonville, Alabama. Mrs. Nowlin is a highly accomplished educator and was recently named Kitty Stone Elementary School's Teacher of the Year.

According to recent media reports, for the past 34 years Mrs. Nowlin has been inspiring young students in Alabama and Tennessee and has been a member of the Kitty Stone Elementary faculty since 1998. Over the years, Mrs. Nowlin has integrated advanced teaching methods and the Internet to equip her kindergarten students with the skills they need to be successful.

I congratulate Mrs. Nowlin for her years of service, and for her recent commendation.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO REBECCA A. JOHNSON

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 15, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Rebecca A. Johnson, principal of Kirk